



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Public Hearing Testimony

Public Health Committee

March 14, 2014



S.B. No. 433 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING PROCESS FOR COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

The Department of Children and Families **offers the following comments** regarding S.B. No. 433, An Act Concerning the Licensing Process for Community Providers. This bill would require the development of a plan to streamline the licensing process for community providers of health care and human services and to report recommendations back to the General Assembly.

We believe that this legislation is unnecessary given recent progress on this issue. The Governor's Nonprofit Liaison has played a leadership role facilitating the development and implementation of a process to streamline fourteen categories of licensure across three agencies: the Department of Children and Families (DCF); the Department of Developmental Services (DDS); and the Department of Public Health (DPH). These three agencies plus the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the parameters of this process. We believe that this uniform licensing process will benefit both the nonprofit providers and each of the state agencies.

The DCF licenses that are included are:

- Extended Day Treatment Programs;
- Out-Patient Psychiatric Clinics for Children;
- Safe Homes;
- Residential Treatment Homes;
- Residential Education Homes;
- Group Homes;
- Temporary Shelters; and
- Child Placing Agencies.

The Department of Administrative Services has provided the resources to allow the agencies to utilize the DAS-BIZNET system to collect and store license applications and other required licensing documentation. There is also a new Uniform License Application form which will be used for each of the fourteen license types.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's position on this legislation. We are available to discuss these issues in greater detail with Committee members and staff.